

# THE NEW TIMES

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SIXPENCE WEEKLY

## The Pride of the Socialists The S.E.C.'s Finances Analysed

By H.R.

Since the establishment of the State Electricity Commission it has been customary for supporters of socialism to present the Commission as a glowing example of the success of socialism in operation. Objections, that whatever success has come to the S.E.C. has been due primarily to the cheapness of its fuel supplies and to easy access to finance, have been swept aside by these propagandists in their eagerness to claim a victory for their own theories.

For some years after the Commission absorbed the Melbourne Electric Supply and whilst it was busily applying its policy of absorbing all country centres into its network and eliminating their local generating stations, the S.E.C. endeavoured to win public support for its activities by a step by step reduction of its electricity tariffs. During more recent months however, tariffs have shown a tendency to move in the opposite direction, but we have not observed any inclination on the part of these socialist supporters of the S.E.C. to admit that this reversal of policy has any connection with fallacies in their theories.

### Informative 31st Annual Report

Those of them who want to know the real facts of socialism in operation in contradistinction to the large number who spend their time endeavouring to smother up distasteful realities, will find some really informative facts in the 31st Annual Report of the S.E.C. which covers the financial year 1949-50. Amongst other things, the report discloses a loss of £349,368 on the year's activities. By drawing upon its accumulated surplus to the extent of £249,368 and absorbing a Rate Stabilisation Reserve of £100,000, the Commission is left with a surplus of a mere £151,664 to face anticipated further adverse balances in the profit and loss account in the current year and in years to come.

### Small Reserves

The absence of any appreciable reserves from which to meet future losses leaves no doubt at all that it is inevitable that the S.E.C. must increase its tariffs for every increase in its own wages bill or in the wages bills of the industries which supply the materials which go towards the maintenance and development of its plant. And it is above doubt that the possibility of a wage increase in the very near future following the recent rise of £1 in the basic wage is something more than a matter of idle conjecture.

The report has this to say on page 8 ding the possibility of further losses:

"With the continued upward trend in costs, and the recent Arbitration Court decision to increase the basic wage by £1, it is obvious that increased electricity tariffs, introduced as from the 1st July 1950, will be inadequate and further increases will be necessary. The Commission continues to be, relieved of the cost above New South Wales parity of coal imported from England, South Africa and India. Again from the 1st July 1950 the revised basis of allocation of engineering and administrative staff salaries and expenses provides for a greater proportion of this cost to be charged to capital, reflecting the considerable expansion of these staffs to keep pace with the huge programme of development works under construction. But the relief thus afforded to operating expenditure, existing and future electricity tariff increases would be markedly greater."

### A Serious Omission

For reasons which need no explanation to regular readers of the *New Times*, the report avoids comment on the effect of the Commission's loan programme upon the profit and loss account in the future. Beyond the information that capital works increased by £14 millions in 1949-50 and that the Commission has sought and obtained approval from the Loan Council for the raising by loan of £26 million, there is not a word offered.

Taking the capital expansion of these two years and assuming that the Commission will continue to offer at least 3-7/8 percent for future borrowings, we find that the capital expansion of these two years alone calls for an annual interest charge of £1,550,000. When this figure is added to the loss, which can be expected in 1950-51, a very disquieting picture is obtained of what consumers of electricity can expect in the way of charges on electricity in the future. This represents a further £2 million at least to be obtained from consumers of electricity, briquettes and brown coal, above the £10,126,970 shown as income from sales for the year 1949-50.

It would of course be an act of extreme

optimism to anticipate that at current tariffs the revenue of the S.E.C. would increase as a consequence of the expansion of plant represented by this expenditure, to a level which will enable the Commission to meet the larger interest bill on top of the greater operating and maintenance charges which will have to be met on plant added from 1949 to 1951. It has to be kept in mind that no revenue will be earned from much of this plant for some years to come.

### The Interest Bill

Before we leave the subject of interest charges it might be worth mentioning that

(Continued on page 3)

### OUR POLICY

1. The preservation of Australia's sovereignty as a part of the British Empire, and the exposure of all internal and external groups that attack that sovereignty.
2. The preservation and extension of genuine local government.
3. The preservation and strengthening of all Constitutional safeguards for the purpose of protecting fundamental individual rights.
4. The encouragement of all activities designed to bring Governments under more effective control by the electors.
5. The preservation and extension of genuine free, competitive enterprise and private ownership, and opposition to all Monopoly, whether it be "private" or State.
6. The support of a financial policy which will (a) permit free enterprise to make available to all individuals an increasing standard of living and greater leisure for cultural pursuits; (b) result in no further increase in the community's indebtedness and the sound business practice of gradually reducing existing debt.
7. Recognising that the basis of any sound economy is agriculture, the encouragement of agricultural policies which will ensure the preservation and building up of soil fertility by organic farming and gardening; and the prevention of soil erosion and the protection of forests and watersheds.

Now, when our land to ruin's brink is verging,  
In God's name, let us speak while there is time!  
Now, when the padlocks for our lips are forging,  
Silence is crime.

WHITTIER.

## TO THE POINT

### What's in a Name?

In recent months Labor Party spokesmen have suggested that the Socialisation objective of the Labor Party may be deleted. If this deletion does take place, all three major Australian political parties will then be able to further Socialist policies while proclaiming that their party platforms make no mention of Socialist objectives.

The present Federal Government has demonstrated that even loud verbal pre-election opposition to Socialism does not prevent them from continuing and extending the Socialist policies of the previous Government.

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### A Straw in the Wind?

While the Federal Cabinet is struggling in the bonds of its constitutional limitations to find a means for dealing with the coal-field crisis, some of the most senior Federal officers are beginning to ask whether Mr. Menzies' Government may not be forced before long to step abruptly into State preserves to reinforce State efforts to generate electricity.

The coalfields strike tends to cloak the fact that electrical generating capacity imposes a paralysing limit on national power output.

As things are at the moment the greater part of the N.S.W. industrial areas would still face bad power shortages, even if there were no coal shortage. The same applies in varying degrees in most of the States.

Bold plans for expanding generating capacity have been drawn. Some are proceeding. But the suspicion becomes stronger almost daily that the demand for power is developing a lot more rapidly than shortages are being overtaken.

Canberra says that the approaching winter is going to be the blackest in Australia's history, even if the coalminers behave and if existing problems are not augmented by an emergency defence demand for electricity.

Current blackouts and the closing down of industries are bound to intensify over the next four months.

Tens of thousands of Australians are going to have the coldest and most uncomfortable winter of their lives.

—E. H. Cox, Canberra correspondent, in *Melbourne Herald*, February 23.

Note carefully that "senior Federal officers are beginning to ask . . ." What the bureaucrats advocate today the politicians support tomorrow.

\* \* \* \*

### Insidious

The following from a feature article in the *Melbourne Argus* of February is a sample of the dangerous ideas being publicised by Dr. Peter Russo, who is a regular commentator for the A.B.C.:

China: There is not the remotest possibility of overthrowing the Communist Government of China and substituting a tame dependent. Even the Americans do not believe that they could destroy Communist rule in China . . .

We could be led into a hopeless war with

China, for the simple purpose of making millions of Chinese suffer, International principles!

Russia has as much chance of controlling China as the West has, unless we badger China into believing that Russia is the better standby. Left to herself, China requires generations to raise her own standard of living, to gather enough strength and purpose in Western terms to want to "dominate" the world.

This typhoon has still a restricted area, but even its outskirts can cause damage.

Indo-China: The French here are fighting a war of pure prestige, one that returns them nothing, and can return them nothing, except jobs for their colonial officials. More than half the French Army is engaged in this lost battle against Asian history.

If it were not so engaged, there would be no need even to consider the rearmament of Germany. Like most other things, the cost of Empire in 1951 is too inflated to be worthwhile . . .

Malaya: The price of holding Malaya will mount every year, and the profits to be gained from Malaya will diminish accordingly. As Malaya is purely a business proposition, this means that the solution is only a matter of time. I, for one, would cut the losses and move out as gracefully as possible.

The above is an open declaration in favour of appeasing Communism in the East. Dr. Russo knows, for example, that he is distorting the truth when he writes of the Chinese "having adopted a form of Government of which we disapprove." The Chinese never "adopted" Communism; they have had it imposed upon them, largely because the Communist traitors in high places in America had military support for Chiang Kai-shek withdrawn.

\* \* \* \*

### A Sound Suggestion

Mr. Latham Withall of the Australian Associated Chambers of Manufactures, has recently expressed the opinion that if the technical and heavy equipment being used for the Snowy River Scheme, together with all the manpower, were shifted immediately to the black coal fields and used for open-cut mining, the growing black coal shortage would be overcome within a very short time. But this proposal conflicts with the policy of creating an eventual Commonwealth Monopoly of electric power.

\* \* \* \*

### Production and Prices

Looking backward over such production records of 1950 as are so far available, it becomes evident that Australian industry has been making useful progress in spite of the obstacles which have confronted it. Besides last year's record production of black coal, which represented an increase of 17 percent on 1949 production, total output of many basic commodities and other needs showed a useful increase on previous years.

Admittedly the preceding year, 1949, included a severe coal strike, but judged on present conditions it can scarcely be re-

garded for that reason alone as a completely abnormal basis for comparison, and, in any case, official figures which cover the greater part of 1950 indicate an improvement on earlier years as well.

Among the Statistician's recently published production figures of important commodities examples of increases in total output are plentiful. The production of pig iron for the first eleven months of 1950 was not only higher than for the corresponding period of 1949 by 33 percent, but it exceeded the eleven months' output of 1948 by 15 percent. Over similar periods steel production in 1950 exceeded 1949 figures by 31 percent, and 1948 figures by 2:1 percent. Ten months' figures for 1950 show that brick production in that year exceeded corresponding periods of the two preceding years by 15 percent and 7 percent, while similar comparisons for cement output reveal production increases in 1950 of 25 percent, over 1949 and 29 percent over 1948. Also over the ten months' period the total electricity generated in 1950 exceeded the total for 1949 by 15 percent, and for 1948 by 18 percent, whilst latest available figures for house Construction show that for the first three-quarters of 1950 the number completed exceeded that for the corresponding period of 1949 by 15 percent, and of 1948 by 28 percent.

These figures are but extracts from a catalogue of production increases over the past year which is in fact substantial, and at this commencement of a new industrial year, when many people are obsessed with—and perhaps even depressed by—fuel and power difficulties and labour problems, the record is a useful reminder that the course of Australian industry is far from being set upon a decline. Despite obstructions which are at times severe and which bring temporary downward fluctuations, the underlying trend of production in Australia is upward.

—*Monthly Summary of Australian Conditions*, February 12, issued by the National Bank of Australasia Limited.

The obvious comment upon the above is: How much further must production be increased before inflation is checked? We would be pleased to have an intelligent answer from any politician.

## Books on Social Credit

### AN INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL CREDIT

By Bryan W. Monahan .....8/9  
A satisfactory and comprehensive answer to the question "What is Social Credit."

### THE TRUTH ABOUT SOCIAL CREDIT

By Eric D. Butler 1/-  
*This* Booklet explodes the many misconceptions about Social Credit and serves as an excellent primer for beginners.

### THE POLICY OF A PHILOSOPHY

By C. H. Douglas .....9d.

### ELEMENTS OF SOCIAL CREDIT

9/6

An introductory course of lectures published with the authority of the Social Credit Secretariat.

## queer places to speak in the name

Last Sunday evening Dr. Edward Roland Walker, newly appointed executive member of the National Security Resources Board, was Guest of Honor on the A.B.C.

He spent most of his time telling of his journeys abroad. During the war he had been with Dedman in War Organisation of Industry. After the war he was appointed External Affairs Economic Counsellor for Europe.

So he lived in Paris with his headquarters at the Australian Embassy. But he was actually an Ambassador at Large.

He became one of our representatives on the United Nations. It was quite an earful to hear him trip off all the initials and give them a name.

He seems to have been everywhere. He had just come back from Lake Success where he had been with Percy Spender at the General Assembly. Then he had buzzed down to Washington to examine United States mobilisation plans.

### Went Places

But it was in Paris that he really went places. His job took him into all the chancelleries of Europe.

To Western Germany, where he represented Australia on the Inter-Allied Reparations Commission, to decide where Hitler's surplus plant was to go.

He was a delegate and on the Governing Body of the International Labor Office. That body since the advent of the United Nations meets all over the world. San Francisco, Geneva, the South of France, with sub-committees at Brussels and Copenhagen.

He also told his listeners that he was Australia's representative on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. He participated in E.C.A., or the European Co-operation Administration, the European equivalent of Marshall Aid under Hoffman. So he was on hand to say how many dollars could be spared for France, for Yugoslavia, for Poland and for Monaco.

He was also on the Executive Board of U.N.E.S.C.O., or the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation with its headquarters in Paris but holding its conferences all over the world. So he travelled to Mexico City, where Sammy Lewis was representing Australia, and to Lebanon.

Then came the International Trade Organisation. Although Dr. Coombs was the Number One, he had to go along. So to Geneva and to Annecy in the South of France, and no doubt to Torquay in Devon. He didn't say if he crossed to Havana to soak in a little Caribbean culture and sunshine when I.T.O. foregathered there.

### Oppenheim Flavor

Almost as an afterthought, he mentioned W.H.O., or the World Health Organisation where again he stated the case for Australia.

For a time he was with U.N.R.R.A., but that folded up rather prematurely.

Then there was a U.N.W.C.O., or United Nations World Copyright Organisation just starting as he was called back.

With becoming modesty he told us what a great job Australia was doing on all these organisations, and how her spokesmen carried more weight than the 2 percent, that we contribute to the cost of them all.

Of course, he had to be on tap for all the major United Nations fixtures. So the Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth are just ferries to these United Nations specialists.

It must have been a wonderful life. All the glamour of high life on the Continent.

*The broadcast almost had an E. Phillips Oppenheim flavor. It could have been titled "Round the World in 80 U.N. Shows."*

### The Trail

But who is Dr. E. R. Walker? He has gone a long way in a short time.

He was born in Cobar and graduated at Sydney University in Economics at the age of 19.

He was given a job immediately on the lecturing staff, and before joining Dedman remained a University teacher. For a while he was Economics Adviser to Tubby Stevens at the N.S.W. Treasury and then became a Professor of Economics at Hobart University.

From a lecturer at 19 to world statesman at 43 is travelling a long way.

Now he is back in charge of Menzies' new control board. Ambitious mothers at one time always planned to make little Johnny a doctor or a banker. These days they want him to become a diplomat. Quickest route to fame is to become an Economic Professor in Hobart. Copland blazed the trail. That was where he started. Now Walker has shown just how far it is possible to travel from that starting point.

—*The Century*, Sydney, Feb. 16.

## THE PRIDE OF THE SOCIALISTS

(Continued from page 1)

in 1949-50 the interest charges of the S.E.C. amounted to £1,602,382. The main point to be gathered from the above analysis is that if the S.E.C. did not have to carry its immense interest bill it would either be showing a substantial profit or it would be selling electricity at tariffs considerably lower than those prevailing at present. The same argument is also applicable to industry in general.

So-called public ownership has had a long enough trial in the S.E.C. to prove that not socialism but financial reform is the answer to rising prices. From past experience of government and semi-government monopolies we see every reason to believe that the considerable expansion of staff to meet the planning and construction of plant, which is referred to in the report, will remain when the programme of development is complete, and will become an additional direct charge upon the consumer of electricity in addition to being a factor in the interest bill through its present absorption on capital expansion.

### The Folly of Public Debt

Since its inception the *New Times* has consistently drawn attention to the folly

of public debt. The figures given above provide irrefutable evidence of the effect of this policy and of the current wage and salary policy of the trades unions upon the pockets of consumers of electricity. They also give some indication of the effect on current financial policy upon the pockets of the people in general.

It should not be necessary to point out that the continuance of this policy is destined to raise the cost of living progressively beyond the ability of the ordinary wage and salary earner to meet it. The way out of this financial morass is to use the national credit interest free or at a minimum accounting charge for capital expansion, and to pay a subsidy direct to wage and salary earners to meet increase to the cost of living. If that policy were followed, interest charges would be kept out of prices and incomes would be adjusted to meet the cost of living without the adjustment itself precipitating a further price rise, as wage and salary adjustment have a habit of doing under the existing policy.

## Important Books And Pamphlets

### THE ANSWER TO SOCIALISM

By C. Barclay Smith ..... 2/9

A very lucid exposition of the working of Socialism, providing the only answer to it.

### FEDERAL UNION EXPOSED

By C. Barclay Smith ..... 2/9

A complete expose of Federal Union and its promoters.

### THE ROAD FROM TAXATION AND NATIONALISATION

By F. J. Tuckfield..... 1/2

The solution to our present ills, written in simple question and answer form.

### STOP THAT THIEF

By Stanley F. Allen ..... 1/9

This book illustrates how the financial system has been used in the plan to enslave the peoples of the world.

### THE ANSWER TO TAX SLAVERY

By C. Barclay Smith ..... 1/3

Facts and figures on the Taxation System, its Use in destroying the Independence of the Individual, and some practical suggestions for dealing with this menace.

### OUR MONEY, THE WAY TO FREEDOM

By Peta ..... 7/9

A remarkably well documented and indexed book showing the domination of humanity by those who manipulate the Money System. A "must" for every student.

# THE NEW TIMES

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## ***Breaching the Constitution***

***Immediately upon his return from overseas, Mr. Menzies made it clear that he was going to exhaust every possible avenue of breaking through the remaining barriers of the Federal Constitution, which prevent the imposition of complete totalitarianism. Mr. Menzies is confronted with the same problem, which confronted his fellow-Socialists in the Labor Party; how to expand the Federal Government's powers at the expense of the States and the individual, without having his legislation successfully challenged in the High Court. Unfortunately, however, Mr. Menzies' task has been made easier by the anti-constitutional activities of his predecessors, who did much ground work in ascertaining just how the Federal Constitution could be destroyed as an effective barrier against increasing centralism.***

***Our regular readers will recall how, during the Bank Nationalisation case, we expressed the opinion that the real purpose of the Chifley Government's legislation was to provide a technique to overcome constitutional limitations upon the Federal Government's powers. We also suggested that the legal battle concerning Bank Nationalisation enabled the Federal Government, and the Socialist planners like Dr. Coombs, to ascertain just what powers the Federal Government did have. We likened this to a military probing action, designed to test defences as a preliminary to further assaults.***

***Although centralised control of the banking system now enables the Federal Government to by-pass the Federal Constitution and exert enormous influence upon the Australian economic system, it is obvious that more direct methods for controlling the individual are desired. Under "the threat of war" — and further inflation — ways and means are now being considered to give effect to these methods. It is doubtful whether the Federal Government's Defence Powers enable it to do all desired by the Canberra planners, although it is possible that Mr. Menzies may develop Dr. Evatt's idea of international agreements being used to impose internal policies however contrary they are to the Federal Constitution. But it is more probable that for the present every effort will be made to trick or coerce the States into co-operating with the Commonwealth to extend policies of centralised control. The establishment of the Joint Coal Board by an agreement between the Federal Government and the N.S.W. State Government provides an example of what can be done. In announcing his Socialist policy for Government buying and selling of meat, Mr. Menzies has mentioned that it is proposed that the States should co-operate with the Commonwealth in order to overcome constitutional difficulties. This indicates that the Canberra planners realise that the States still have important sanctions, which might easily be used to upset their plans.***

***As we have said on previous occasions, it appears to us that the States are still the major barrier to the plans of the centralisers. It is therefore imperative that electors of initiative and courage take all possible action to encourage their State Governments to resist any further encroachment by the Commonwealth on the powers of the States. As a start we strongly recommend that readers take the matter up with their State Members and then make public what action these members are prepared to take in defence of constitutional safeguards which are desperately necessary at a time when the totalitarians in all countries are desperately working to overthrow the last remaining freedoms and rights of the individual.***

## Glen Davis

The Federal Government has begun the year by laying the foundations for its own defeat. The decision to close Glen Davis, and the story behind it, if properly used, could envelop the Government in a scandal from which it could never untangle itself.

It will be some months before the story really unfolds, and when it does, Eddie Ward should be able to hurl enough at the Government to square accounts for all he had to take when he was under fire on New Guinea timber.

McLeay, in making the announcement, claims that he doesn't know whether the refinery will be operated by the Government, to deal with imported oil, or whether it will be operated by private enterprise.

I can tell you that the Government has already entered into an agreement to sell the Cracking plant at Glen Davis to Bitumen Oil Refineries, at a fraction of its original cost, or its present value. An alternative scheme, if this is too much for the people to stomach, is that Bitumen Oil will hire the cracking plant from the Government, at a ridiculously low figure.

The deal has been worked by two members of the BORAL Board, Messrs. T. G. Murray and E. R. Griffin. These gentlemen have been frequent visitors to Canberra in the past eight months. Both have entertained politicians in a most lavish manner. One of them spent his holidays down there, and was seen constantly on the Golf Courses with men likely to be of assistance in a deal with the Government.

There has been no report of a deal with the Government made to the BORAL Board. So far, it has been Murray-Griffin promotion.

But events of the past two months make it pretty clear that Messrs. Murray and Griffin have every reason to believe that the Glen Davis cracking plant is already in their pockets.

It will be remembered that these gentlemen, with the assistance of others, threw overboard their crude oil agreement with Caltex, and entered into an arrangement with Anglo-Iranian Oil, for a crude oil supply.

**THE OIL THAT WILL BE OBTAINED FROM ANGLO-IRANIAN CAN ONLY BE HANDLED WITH THE AID OF A CRACKING PLANT. THE ONLY CRACKING PLANT AVAILABLE IN AUSTRALIA TODAY IS THE CRACKING PLANT AT GLEN DAVIS.**

Is it logical, that Messrs. Murray and Griffin would sign a contract with Anglo-Iranian, unless they were certain that they could get that cracking plant?

To do so would be the action of lunatics, and so far, not even their worst critics have accused either one of lunacy.

It boils down to this. The Government, at a time when its leaders and paid propagandists are exhorting every Australian to subordinate his own interests to those of the Nation, has sabotaged a National asset in the interests of a group of private capitalists.

It has done even worse than that. Without making any attempt to increase production of Australia's only source of

(Continued on page 8)

# Division in the Ranks

By NORMAN WEBB

(Conclusion)

Mr. Reed adds a postscript to his book as to later developments in the world situation. In it he quotes global utterances of the American General Hugh H. Knerr on the strategy of World War III, upon which we all seem so keenly bent. Needless the general "thinks big," as world strategists are prone to. I agree with Mr. Reed that the pressure of large-scale war tends to over-simplify the issues, allowing real planners to slip in their own objectives, if not under cover of it, then in subsequent clean up. Modern war, Mr. Reed shows, is always intended to effect other, and different ends than the ostensible ones for which it is undertaken. Had the peoples of the United States been told that the two main objects of World War II were, one to permit of the advance of the Red Armies to the centre of Europe and the Pacific Coast, and two, to set up a Jewish state in Arabia—to both of which it is now fairly clear Roosevelt had agreed before his death—they would never have acquiesced. But they were not told, for obvious reasons. And the plans linked up with these two objectives are still in process of maturing.

In 1948 the tremendous form of the undeveloped African Continent began to emerge from the mist of events. This was about the time when Kenneth de Courcey's Foreign Affairs became infected with the African development virus, and more or less coincident with Strachey's Ground Nuts Scheme. As soon as Truman was duly elected in 1949, he lost no time in launching the Scheme of his anonymous backers for saving the world from Communism; its Fourth Point being "a bold new programme for undeveloped areas." Accompanying this in December of the same year was the American request to Great Britain with other interested countries, to draw up a defence master plan to open up the African continent south of the Sahara. Along with this was announced the policy of an expert American Administration, along the lines already adopted in South America under the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, where already there were computed to be 325 administrators and 9,500 American nationals *inside the Government departments of the various Republics*. Since the proportion of Zionists and near-Communists is as high as it is admitted to be in Washington itself, the proportion is not likely to be less in this expert schedule. Vast plans for Cape-to-Cairo road and rail transport, were to be matured with strategic branches, and all converging upon the Suez Canal and the Near Eastern countries grouped round Palestine, which General Knerr's strategy envisages as the centre of defence against Soviet designs; "the British island"—you've heard of it, haven't you?—and Western Europe generally having been put out of action in the first brush.

Douglas Reed has made efforts to discover the source of Mr. Truman's large policies. This, he says, he came on—or at least it was the only parallel he could find

—in *Teheran, Our Path in War or Peace*,

published during Roosevelt's term, written by Earl Browder, then the Communist leader of America. Here, under this title with its rather ominous suggestion of heads I win, tails you lose, the whole plan is outlined as the logical Communist policy, further extension east to Persia. The whole area is scheduled for Industrialization through American and British enterprise. The Communists—whatever we mean by the term—have thought it all out, and it would seem that it has been passed on to the President of the anti-Communist United States as a bold plan for saving the world from Communism. Both Generals Eisenhower and Omar Bradley have said that ultimately the generals do what the politicians tell them - - a rather terrible admission but probably more or less true of all modern wars.

This is Mr. Reed's grim suggestion. That the superficial logic of World War II was that the leader of a nation with global aspirations began to persecute the Jews, and that the Western Allies had to link up with Russia to stop him. And that, as a consequence, the Arabs had to be turned out of their native land. It might follow, therefore, argues Mr. Reed that World War III was to be heralded by a persecution of the Jews in Soviet Russia; again, a country with global aspirations, which would have to be prevented by U.N.O. forces. This accomplished, the necessity would arise for the expulsion of more Arabs from the countries surrounding Palestine, and a really big in gathering of the Jews to the Middle East, with its immense mineral potentialities. It is obvious that such an imposing development would need an expandable hinterland. This is where the African industrialisation scheme would come in, administered in the main by citizens of the U.S.A., with the requisite racial and political bias, it should fall into the hands of Israel like a ripe peach, and the whole balance of the world be radically altered in a generation.

All that, of course, is speculation, and extremely long-term speculation. I feel that Social Crediters should study to be able to look so far ahead if occasion arises, which should be exceedingly seldom. For the general public I doubt its efficacy in any direction. For, in proportion as it is taken seriously, as of course, it should be, it would tend merely to frighten and depress. Nevertheless, there is a lesson to be learned, and that is, that if such long-term and devilish plans do exist in the minds of men, and no one can say such a thing is impossible—in fact, all the evidence goes to show that it is highly likely—then all the more are we driven back to the individual, ethical outlook, and the preferences, and even prejudices that have grown up in us under a still predominating Christian system of thought. The hope—perhaps the only hope—of Great Britain, and the British Commonwealth is in its culture, which was, and no doubt still is, the nearest approach to the Christian attitude of mind that this world has to show.

## BOOKS ON THE "JEWISH PROBLEM"

**Hitler's Policy Was a Jewish Policy . . . . .** 1/3

**Does It Fit The Facts? . . .** 5/-

C. H. Douglas's correspondence with the Rev. Dr. Sallis Daiches concerning the "authenticity" of The Protocols.

**The International Jew. . .** 2/9

By Eric D. Butler.

The most detailed commentary on The Protocols yet written. Packed full of explosive factual material.

**The Mysterious Protocols. 2/9**

Full text of "The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion."

**The War Behind The War. 5d.**

By Eric D. Butler.

Although written early in the war, this brochure is still an excellent introduction to the "Jewish Problem." Shows the difference between anti-Semitism and anti-Judaism.

All prices listed above include the cost of postage.

## Hurt Pride of R.N.

Englishmen throughout the world will feel deep humiliation at the action of Mr. Attlee, the British Prime Minister, in placing the British Navy under the command of an American.

The British Navy, with its traditions and symbols of past British might and achievement, is now to be eclipsed by another of lesser achievement. Mr. Attlee virtually admits that Great Britain has sunk so low that its top leadership no longer counts in world affairs.

As the Australian Navy would automatically be incorporated with the British Navy in time of war, it would be politic to inquire if this action has been taken in consultation with Australia. Has Mr. Menzies been consulted? If so, what is his attitude? If not, why not?

It is indicative of the general degradation of the British Empire since the British Labor Government took control of affairs that India, Burma and Ceylon amongst others, have been lost to British control, thus adding immeasurably to world chaos. In addition, the people of Great Britain are the worst clothed, worst fed and the heaviest taxed in Europe; and its industrial leaders frustrated and depressed.

These are the obvious practical effects of socialism.

Norman Comper (Flinders Lane.)

—*The Age*, Melbourne, February 26.



## Wool Marketing Scheme

The following letter by Mr. H. Butcher, a well-known West Australian woolgrower, to "The West Australian" of February 21, 1951, is an excellent summary of the case against the proposed Post-Joint Organisation Marketing scheme for wool:

Sir, —During April or May Australian woolgrowers will be asked to vote for or against the proposed Post-Joint Organisation wool marketing scheme. While details of the scheme, which is to fix a reserve or "floor" price for wool, have not yet been completed and made public it is permissible and desirable that the woolgrower should consider the principles involved in the operation of any such scheme.

Firstly, it should be made clear what the scheme will not do. It will not prevent falls in the general price level of wool. It will not "stabilise" the price of wool. It will not guarantee the grower the costs of production, plus a reasonable margin of profit.

What, then, is the official purpose of the scheme? According to the Minister for Commerce (Mr. McEwan) it is to "dampen down short-term violent fluctuations" in value. Note that it is not claimed that it will provide any guard against a long-term fall in wool prices. Who is to decide whether a fall in values is merely a "short-term fluctuation" or the beginning of a long-term fall?

It has been officially stated that the scheme is not intended to prop prices at a continuously high level. As proof of this the Minister pointed out that in the final year of the J.O. Plan the reserve or "floor" price is only 24d. sterling for Australian wool. What grower would feel happy if he saw prices tumbling, to know that the scheme, which he must help to finance, would only stop the rot at 24d. sterling price? This, of course, would not represent a "short-term fluctuation"! It would represent a virtual collapse of the market.

It should be clearly recognised that there is no similarity between the J.O. plan and the proposed reserve price scheme. The former was a war measure, which came into existence to dispose of surplus war stocks without unduly flooding the market and forcing down the price of current production. This measure was thus to protect, if it had been necessary, the woolgrower against the detrimental effects of large-scale government trading.

But this much may be legitimately pointed out about J.O. operations to indicate the way Post-J.O. would work. So long as values remain well above the "floor" price, which they have done, J.O. only buys in odd lines which have missed the buyers' eyes. In normal circumstances the grower, through his broker, would have withdrawn

these lines. If values did fall to the "floor" price, J.O. would have to lower the "floor" or buy-in considerable quantities to hold the market. If a stockpile were thus created, it would naturally be known to the wool-buyer and could force prices down even lower. If the seller is to be entitled to fix a "floor" price, then it follows that the buyer should be entitled to fix a "ceiling" price. I am just wondering what would happen to the building if the "ceiling" were built below the "floor."

The practical approach is to realise that no amount of tampering or interference with the buying and selling of a product, whether it be wool or anything else, can do anything but distort the operation of supply and demand, to the final detriment and

## Organic Methods on 24,000-Acre Station

The biggest woolgrower in Western Australia, Mr. Harry Butcher, is practising organic methods on his 24,000-acre sheep station at Nangetty. Not a bag of superphosphate has gone into this property and the plough has been abandoned. The main cultivating implement used is a rooter. This breaks the soil with a form of tye to a depth of nine inches without inverting the sod, thus preserving the original soil layers. The grass mixture is specially selected to suit local conditions, form a complete ecological balance and at the same time a complete diet for the grazing animals.

By the application of these methods Mr. Butcher claims that he will raise the carrying capacity of this property seven-fold—from one sheep per acre to seven sheep per acre. This is further evidence to refute the argument that organic methods are only suitable on very smallholdings and not adaptable to Australian conditions and larger holdings.

—J.W.

## Humus and Potato Cultivation

At a recent address to an Agricultural Bureau Conference in Orange, New South Wales, the Orange District agronomist, Mr. R. C. Madsen, said that unless action was taken to include clover pasture in rotations, farmers might as well discontinue their efforts to grow potatoes. Mr. Marsden stressed the importance of maintaining soil

expense of buyer and seller alike. It may well be asked: How can a scheme which puts nothing into wool but takes much out (7¼ percent levy on the grower) be of advantage to any section of the wool industry? Without providing any real protection for anyone it will place an added burden on both producer and consumer in the form of overhead costs and another vested interest will be created and build up. Furthermore it will pave the way for increasing control by government officials, which few growers are likely to consider as a commendable step; particularly when it is remembered that tomorrow's Government may be socialist or near-Communist.

The woolgrower will see that the proposed scheme cannot effectively insure him against a fall in the world market for wool and it will only add to his already onerous tax burden a further levy which could be far more competently spent by the grower himself on increased production and economic development. On principle the reserve price scheme should be opposed and defeated. —Yours, etc., H. BUTCHER.

fertility in order to prevent insect pest destroying potato crops.

Crop rotation, he said, was linked closely with soil fertility and potatoes should not be grown more frequently than one in four crops. Oats, swedes and Japanese millet could be used in the rotation, but the paddock should always be returned to pasture. To arrest the decline in soil fertility subterranean and red clovers, as part of pasture rotation, provided much of the answer in areas of high and cool climates.

Potatoes grown in paddocks that had carried clovers in a pasture rotation showed great vigor and excellent colour. Potatoes grown on constantly cropped land, without pasture in the rotation, lacked vigor and colour, meant increased costs and low returns in digging and sale. As the humus content of the soil was destroyed, fertility went down. It was better not to grow potatoes unless attention was given to soil fertility.

It is encouraging to note that an increasing number of Government agricultural experts are stressing the vital importance of maintaining the fertility of the soil by ensuring that the humus content is maintained at a high level. However there is still insufficient attention being given to the relationship between growing sickness in human beings and the exhaustion of the fertility of the soil in which their food is grown.

### NOTE

Mr. F. C. King's remarkable book, "IS DIGGING NECESSARY," is available from New Times Ltd., Box 1226L G.P.O., Melbourne, at 1/5, post-free. Write now for your copy.

## Birds Mean Life for Humans

In the following letter to the Melbourne *Weekly Times* of February 28, a correspondent makes some important points concerning the vital role of birds in preserving the balance of nature and consequently ensuring that man can continue to survive:

Although it is not generally realised if all the bird's in the world were exterminated we ourselves would become extinct within seven years. This is not a bogeyman picture sketched by tenderhearted bird lovers, but by scientists who assure us that without birds, even those we regard as our enemies, the world would soon end.

Not a single green leaf would sprout. Our herds would die. All vegetables and fruit would vanish from our tables. For birds are nature's way of getting rid of undesirable insects. Nor do they migrate just for the fun of the thing. When they have cleared the area or land of insects, they go elsewhere to find more food.

Not long ago, bird watchers were dismayed when a horde of locusts descended on Morocco, and began their usual depredations. But scarcely had they started champing when an army of storks arrived and devoured the lot, thus saving thousands of acres of fertile vineyards.

The watchers caught some of these storks whose feet were tagged with little discs. From these they learnt that the birds had deserted an area in Alsace where once marshes infested with frogs, mice, vipers and insects were now fertile country. The scale on which the birds are destroyed is colossal. Fashion's demand for feathers has fallen off recently, but it still involves the destruction of millions of birds.

No one would call the British War Office a body of sentimentalists, but shortly before the war they recognised the crime of annihilating birds sufficiently to rule that the plumes of the egret were no longer to be worn in the helmet of the officers of certain regiments. Since then Egypt has decided to protect the small white egret whose long, delicate plume, known as the aigrette and produced only at nesting time, is so beloved by women of fashion. This greedy insect lover protects the cotton millet maize and rice crops of Egypt. In China, too, the egret has been exterminated on a vast scale. And it was discovered that as he disappeared crops were ruined by mice, snails, frogs and myriads of insects and grubs. Inevitably famine followed.

### Caging a Crime

Apart from any soft heartedness about imprisoning a live creature, it should be a crime to cage a wild bird. Before the war 10,000 gold finches alone were trapped each year in Britain because of their pleasing

song, and an even larger number of larks, linnets, siskens and chaffinches. All these could have played their part in stemming the advance of a huge ever-increasing army of insects.

Many think that the sole use of the owl is to be stuffed and placed in a setting of antimacassars and aspidistras. But a great lord and president of the British Ornithological Union said that the fittest place for the willful destroyer of the owl was the lunatic asylum. The owl destroys the field mouse, which eats only a few ears of corn on each stalk, scattering the remainder and ravishing large areas.

And please remember that there are no useless birds. Even the strutting Mussolini has to his credit that he passed stringent regulations governing the destruction of the swallow and quail in Italy.

## Stubble Burning is Bad Farming

In spite of the increasingly widespread support for organic farming methods in recent years, it is remarkable how many farmers in Australia, particularly in the wheat growing areas, still destroy enormous quantities of organic material every year by burning their straw. It is true that when straw is burnt the ash constituents are returned to the soil, but these are of minor importance compared with the humus made available if the straw is permitted to decay either in the soil or on top of it.

If straw is turned in, it certainly temporarily depletes the supply of nitrogen in the soil while it is breaking down. However, there should be ample nitrogen in the soil when leguminous crops have been grown. Wheat straw contains much carbohydrate material and relatively little nitrogen. Unfortunately the bacteria, which brings about decay of the carbohydrates must draw nitrogen from some source other than the stubble itself, and this source is the soil. If the soil is already deficient in nitrogen, the decay bacteria compete with any growing crop for the small amount of nitrogen available. The crop suffers. As soon as the initial decay processes are completed, the strain on the limited nitrogen supplies eases and the reverse process takes place as the nitrifying bacteria do their important work. The important point which all farmers should bear in mind, is that they should never let their soil fertility fall so low that stubble turned in has to compete with growing crops for inadequate nitrogen supplies.

## Socialist Egg Farm Failing

Some time ago we mentioned how in spite of the ground nuts scheme fiasco in South Africa, the British Socialists were embarking upon a Socialist egg farm in Gambia, West Africa. The egg farm was launched two years ago with a capital of £800,000 and 10,000 American eggs. According to the Socialist planners, the scheme was going to provide Great Britain with 20 million eggs a year starting from August 1950. But it has now been revealed that only 38,000 eggs were received in Great

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### Are You An Organic Farmer or Gardener?

If so, the Editor of *Rural Review* would be pleased to hear from you at any time. All over Australia increasing numbers of people are applying organic farming and gardening methods. Readers who have any interesting information concerning the results they are achieving are requested to write in so that other readers can obtain the benefit of their experiences.

Britain during the latter portion of 1950. The British Government had to write off £30 million capital invested in the groundnuts scheme. It appears that the egg scheme will be another costly demonstration of the failure of Socialist enterprises. The bigger these enterprises, the greater the ultimate losses.

"New Times," March 9, 1951 — Page 7

# Fair Comment

By JOHN WELLER

## Confirmation

The Chinese "agrarian reform" myth no longer fools anyone, but it is interesting to have this confirmation that the Chinese Reds have been committed by treaty to Soviet policies for at least twelve months:

"London (Reuters): Moscow Radio today quoted from an article in the Soviet Communist newspaper *Pravda* which said that Russia and China 'with a total population of over 700,000,000 constitutes an invincible force in the world'.

"The article was written by General Chou En-lai, China's Communist Premier and Foreign Minister, on the anniversary of the Chinese-Soviet Treaty signed last year.

"Chou recalled in particular two clauses of the treaty. One pledges the two countries to take jointly 'all necessary steps open to them to prevent a repetition of aggression or breach of the peace by Japan or any other State associated with her in an act of aggression'. The other pledges China to participate in a spirit of real co-operation in all international activities aimed at securing peace and security in the world.'

"Chou said that these two clauses in the past year had not only greatly affected the struggle in the Far East but would affect it even more in the future."

—*West Australian*, Feb. 15.

Will somebody please tell Professor Copland?

## Cover Names

And while we are mentioning the subject of Communist cover names it is interesting to note that the controlled Press still refers to the Communists in Indo-China as the "Vietnam Rebels" and in Malaya as "bandits". What's in a name?

## The Correct Background

The first Governor of the Ceylon Central Bank, Mr. John Exter, is amongst those who have been entertained in Australia by our central bank Governor, Dr. Coombs, Mr. Exter, like Dr. Coombs, has the right background and training for his responsible

position. Before the Ceylon Bank was founded last year he was banking adviser to the Ceylon Government, and previously had been acting chief of the Far Eastern section of the Division of Research and Statistics of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board. Whether his researches into Far Eastern matters led him to any conclusions about the "agrarian reformers" has not been reported, but there is not the slightest doubt that he will be counted upon to further the policy of credit monopoly.

## The Difference

From the film *Steel Helmet*: An American G.I. asks star Gene Evans how to tell the difference between a South Korean and a North Korean. Says Evans, "He's a South' Korean when he's running with you and a North Korean when he's running after you."

## The Trade Union Monopoly

A decentralised, non-compulsory trade union may once have been a legitimate instrument for protecting the rights and conditions of employees in relation to their employers. But it is obvious that this legitimate function has long since been superceded. The compulsory trade union monopoly is now an instrument, which rigidly controls the unionist, who becomes merely a counter to be used and exploited for the achievement of political ends. For this he may be rewarded with certain material gains, but as matters stand today this is little more than a particularly clever form of mass bribery. When they have served their turn in assisting to power those who control them they will receive little consideration.

A classic example of the blatantly political nature of activities was the action of the waterside workers in boycotting Dutch shipping at the time of the agitation for the Republic of Indonesia. Well, the Republic has now been formed and its President, ex-Jap, collaborator "Dr." Soekarno has decreed that any "worker" in *his* vital enterprises who strikes or even suggests a strike is liable for a year in gaol or a fine of £A1,205. If the wharf labourers who helped Soekarno to his position has heard of the matter they have given no indication.

Unless the unionist realises that the trade union monopoly must be broken up, i.e., decentralised, and restricted to its proper functions then the privileges which he has been permitted will not be his for long. There are no strikes in Soviet Russia.

## GLEN DAVIS

(Continued from page 4)

petrol, it has closed down that source, and the plant thrown idle will be used to refine crude oil from a source that would be cut immediately war broke out.

The best that could be said about the Government's action is that it is an act of unparalleled stupidity. The background story makes it appear as though more sins than the sin of stupidity have been committed.

—Frank Browne in *Things I Hear*, January 9.

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